



# **Central Appalachian Region**

# MLRA Soil Survey Region 13 2001 - 2002 Business Plan



Morgantown, West Virginia

November 2000

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## Acknowledgement

The information in this document is submitted to the MLRA Soil Survey Region 13 Board of Directors, state soil scientists, and conservation partners in response to the annual need for an MO Office Business Plan. The information contained herewith is provided for NRCS managers, staff, and National Cooperative Soil Survey Cooperators to use in order to achieve a common understanding of program goals, objectives, and overall direction. I welcome your feedback and point out that this is a dynamic document which can be changed or updated at any time during the year.

This business plan is founded on the NRCS strategic plan, the list of priorities of the NRCS Soils Division as outlined by the division director, and the conservation partnership made up of the state soil conservation agency and the soil conservation districts.

WILLIAM J. HARTMAN

State Conservationist, West Virginia

Chair, MO-13 Board of Directors

#### NATIONAL COOPERATIVE SOIL SURVEY

### OUR MISSION ......

Providing leadership in a partnership effort to help people conserve, maintain, improve our natural resources and environment through a better understanding of soils. We are committed to helping field staff develop and publish quality soil surveys.

### OUR VISION ......

"We want a soil survey program that the agency is proud of and committed to, where all people have an opportunity to contribute, learn, grow, and advance on merit... We want all staff to feel respected, treated fairly, listened to, and involved. Above all, we want satisfaction from accomplishment and friendships and to have fun in our work."

### Fiscal Year 2001 Priorities for the Soil Survey of the United States

These priorities support the Agency's Strategic Plan, the needs of the field, and the conservation partnership:

- 1) Populate and update the National Soil Information System (NASIS) with quality data;
- 2) Implement the Soil Data Warehouse;
- 3) Develop an accountability process for non-mapping activities;
- 4) Product delivery--make soil surveys more accessible;
- 5) Complete the Revision of the State Soil Geographic Data Base (STATSGO) and Major land Resource Areas (MLRA) publication and maps (Agriculture Handbook 296);
- 6) Implement the expanded ("super") MLRA concept for field project offices; and
- 7) Emphasize technical soil services and urban interpretations

## Objective: Soil Survey Quality Assurance

Goal A. Conduct field reviews and field assistance visits as required for quality and technical accuracy.

### Action 1. TENTATIVE FY-2001 FIELD ACTIVITY SCHEDULE

## October, 2000

Date	Activity	Staff
2-4	Field Visit - Graham/Cherokee Counties, NC	Clary
2-6	Partnership Meeting - Charleston, WV	Kingsbury
9-13	IFR - C&O Canal, MD	Pyle
9-13	FFR - Braddock Run Watershed, Alleghany Co., MD	Pyle
10-11	FFR - Camp Dawson, Preston Co. WV	Topalanchik
16-20	PFR - Jefferson County, KY	Kingsbury
16-20	PFR - Graham/Cherokee, NC	Clary
24-26	IFR - Fayette/Raleigh Counties, WV	Topalanchik

### **November 2000**

Date	Activity	Staff
6-9	FFR - Doddridge County, WV	Topalanchik
13-17	FFR - Gordon County, GA	Clary
13-17	Reference Sampling 2 Pedons in Adair Co. Ky. Geomorphology Study	Jenkins

### December 2000

Date	Activity	Staff
4-8	FFR - Knox County, TN	Clary

(NOTE: 2001 - This part of the schedule does not include MO-18.)

## January 2001

Date	Activity	Staff
22-26	Soil Data Quality Specialists Meeting - Morgantown, WV	SDQS'

## February 2001

Date	Activity	Staff
5-9	Survey Manuscript Preparation Workshop	MO Staff
12-16	NASIS - Report Writing	Kelsea Dobos, Delp
26-1	March NASIS - Interpretations	Nielson, Delp, Dobos

### **March 2001**

Date	Activity	Staff
5-9	PFR - Southwestern Pennsylvania Soil Survey Maintenance Project	Topalanchik
12-16	PFR - Lincoln County, WV	Kingsbury
19-23	IFR - Monroe County, WV	Pyle

## **April 2001**

Date	Activity	Staff
2-6	NASIS - Query Writing	Bigler, Dobos, Delp

## April 2001 - Contd.

Date	Activity	Staff
9-13	Open	Kingsbury
9-13	PFR - Chester County, PA	Kingsbury
16-20	PFR - Jackson/Mason Counties, WV	Topalanchik
16-20	NASIS - Forestry Interpretations	Patterson, Dobos, Delp
23-27	PFR - Russell County, VA	Pyle

## May 2001

Date	Activity	Staff
14-18	PFR - Rockbridge County, VA	Pyle
14-18	Open	Kingsbury

### June 2001

Date	Activity	Staff
4-8	PFR - Bland County, VA	Pyle
4-8	PFR - Buchanan County, VA	Kingsbury
11-14	IFR - Potter County, PA	Topalanchik
18-22	PFR - Scott County, VA	Pyle

## **July 2001**

Date	Activity	Staff
9-13	PFR - Southeastern Ohio Soil Survey Maintenance Project	Kingsbury
9-13	IFR - Jefferson County, WV	Pyle
23-27	Final Correlation - Bath County, VA	Pyle

# August 2001

Date	Activity	Staff
6-10	MO-13 Soil Scientists Workshop - West Virginia	WV SS MO-13 Staff
13-14	Retrieval of Dataloggers from State College, PA	Dobos
13-14	Pennsylvania State Soil Temperature Study	Topalanchik

## September 2001

Date	Activity	Staff
10-14	PFR - Culpeper County, VA	Pyle
17-21	PFR - Bath County, KY	Kingsbury
24-28	PFR - Howard County, MD	Pyle

# Goal B. Provide for the smooth transition of MO-13 into two areas and assist as requested with the creation of MO-18 in Lexington.

#### Action 1.

Work closely with Kentucky State Conservationist and MO-18 staff leader to transfer files and field schedules so as not to cause a disruption in field support activities. **WHO:** Carpenter, MO-18 Leader.

#### Action 2.

Work with The National Soil Survey Center to evenly divide responsibility for Official Series Descriptions into two parts: those in MO-13 and MO-18. **WHO:** Carpenter, Ahrens, MO-18 Leader.

#### Action 3.

Provide a new suite of thematic maps depicting the revised MO-13 area to include status and areas of responsibility. **WHO**: Prescott.

# Goal C. Provide Quality Assurance Reviews of Soil Survey Manuscripts and prepare them for publication.

#### Action 1.

Maintain a current technical and English edit list for BOTH MO-13 and MO-18 until staffing plan for MO-18 is filled with an editor. See Figure 1 and 2. **WHO**: McDaniel, Meierdierks

#### Action 2.

Maintain an orderly flow of manuscripts through the publication system by coordination of maps ready at NCG and needs of the Digital Map Finishing Centers. **WHO**: McDaniel, Meierdierks

#### Action 3.

Schedule and carry out a manuscript preparation course for field soil scientists. **WHO**: Carpenter, staff **WHEN**: February 2001

#### Action 4.

Editing/Publishing. Ensure Soil survey manuscripts are edited for accuracy. Editing will be according to the edit priority list (Figure 1). **WHO:** Meierdierks, McDaniel

### Goal D. **Populate the NASIS database with quality data.**

Action 1.

Hold four (4) NASIS training sessions for field soil scientists during the year. WHO: Dobos, staff

Action 2.

Continue to support project offices with one-on-one assistance. WHO: Dobos

Action 3.

Work to implement the central server for NASIS with NSSC staff. WHO: Dobos

Goal E. Product Delivery--make soil survey products more Accessible

Action 1.

Create CD-ROM archives for Preston, Tucker, and Barbour Counties in West Virginia as a pilot. **WHO:** Hiza

Action 2.

Get Digital Map Finishing functional at the SSIC. Digitally map finish Gilmer and MCDowell Counties in WV. **WHO:** Prescott, Delp, SSIC, staff

# Goal F. **Complete the revision of the STATSGO database and MLRA Maps and Handbook 296.**

Action 1.

Complete edits to MLRA boundary maps as recommended and create a final DRAFT for submission. **WHO:** MO staff, Prescott. **BY:** 

Action 2.

Complete Revision to STATSGO map as time will allow. WHO: MO staff, Delp

# Goal G. Implement the expanded "Super" MLRA project Office concept for project offices

#### Action 1.

Place one WV soil scientist in the MLRA-126 project office in Marietta Ohio. **WHO:** Gerken, Carpenter **BY:** Jan 2001

#### Action 2.

Continue to work with soils division and state conservationists through the board of directors to promote and develop MLRA soil survey project offices **WHO**: Carpenter

#### Action 3.

Develop MLRA leader positions for MLRAs 127, 147, and 148. **WHO:** Carpenter, Hartman, and MO-13 Board of Directors

### Goal H. Complete field work for third phase of soil Phosphorus study

#### Action 1.

Describe and characterize major soils in the Greenbrier and Shenandoah Valleys of West Virginia and Virginia.

#### Action 2.

Investigate the P retention capacity of surface and subsurface horizons and determine P loading of soil series based on P adsorption capacity and the degree of soil P saturation. **WHO:** Carpenter, WVU, and field staff

#### Action 3.

Keep NSSC informed of progress and status of soil P study. WHO: Carpenter

# Goal I. Civil Rights and Outreach in the soil survey program

#### Action 1.

Assist in the identification of under served communities and assist in obtaining needed information provided by outreach efforts in individual states in the MO-13 region.

#### Goal I. (Continued)

#### Action 2.

Assist state leadership teams in developing a staffing plan that meets the needs and make up for the soil survey project office in the region. Utilize the SEEP program to address future staff needs.

#### Action 3.

Hold Soil Survey Workplanning Conference for West Virginia and also attend those conferences in other states in MO-13 region. **WHO:** Carpenter, WVSCA

Goal J. Provide SSURGO certification support for 19 datasets in MO-13 as per schedule (see Figure 3:)

#### Action 1.

Ensure each county has proper review and certification documentation. WHO: staff

#### Action 2.

Work with individual states to complete the necessary documentation work for certification. WHO: Staff

#### Action 3.

Convert Webster, Kanawha, Wetzel, Pleasants, Tyler, and Greenbrier Counties in WV to digital format. **WHO:** Delp, SSIC staff

Goal K. Emphasize Technical Soil Services and Urban Interpretations

#### Action 1.

Provide training for new sanitarians for the West Virginia Dept. of Health. WHO: Kingsbury

#### Action 2.

Emphasize urban interpretations at the West Virginia Soil Survey Work Planning Conference. **WHO:** Delp, Carpenter

# Goal L. Provide for High Quality Data Collection in WV and ICCS Region II

Action 1.

Collect remotely sensed data in West Virginia.

Action 2.

Collect on-site data in West Virginia.

Action 3.

Coordinate on-site and remotely sensed data collection in DC, DE, MD, NJ & PA.

Goal M. Complete High Quality Soil Mapping and Updating in West Virginia

Action 1.

Complete mapping and updating of 350,000 acres in West Virginia.

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